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CENTRAL FAX CENTERAppl. No. 10/772965
Rcply to Action dated 9/14/2006
Page 4

DEC 13 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration and reexamination of the application are requested. Claims 2 and 4 have been allowed. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1, 2 and 4 remain pending.

Claim objection

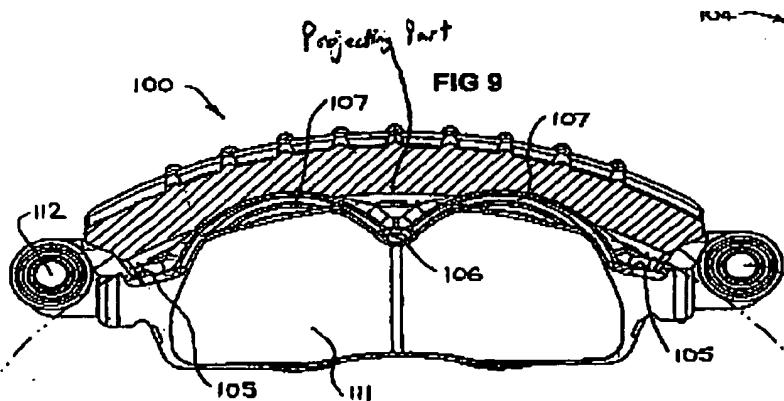
Claim 1 is objected to for the reason noted. Claim 1 has been amended to delete the word "piston".

Claim rejection

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reeves (US 6,478,121) in view of Rath (US 3,782,510).

Claim 1 recites that part of the bridge section projects further radially inwards than outer peripheral edges of the pistons and the projecting part of the bridge section projects between the pistons and the projecting part between the pistons extends from the inner section to the outer section of the caliper body. As disclosed by Applicant, this helps to maintain the rigidity of the caliper body while minimizing the external size of the caliper body.

Reeves and Rath do not teach or suggest a projecting part between pistons that extends from an inner section to an outer section. The rejection relies upon Reeves to teach a projecting part. The projecting part is not explicitly defined in the rejection. Applicant will assume that the projecting part relied upon in the rejection is the part identified below from Figure 9 of Reeves.



Appl. No. 10/772965
Reply to Action dated 9/14/2006
Page 5

Although this projecting part of Reeves projects between the two pistons, there is no indication from Reeves that the projecting part actually extends from the inner section 101 to the outer section 116. There appears to be a recessed area in the center of the bridge 114 between the sections 103 and 109, indicated below in Figure 6 from Reeves.

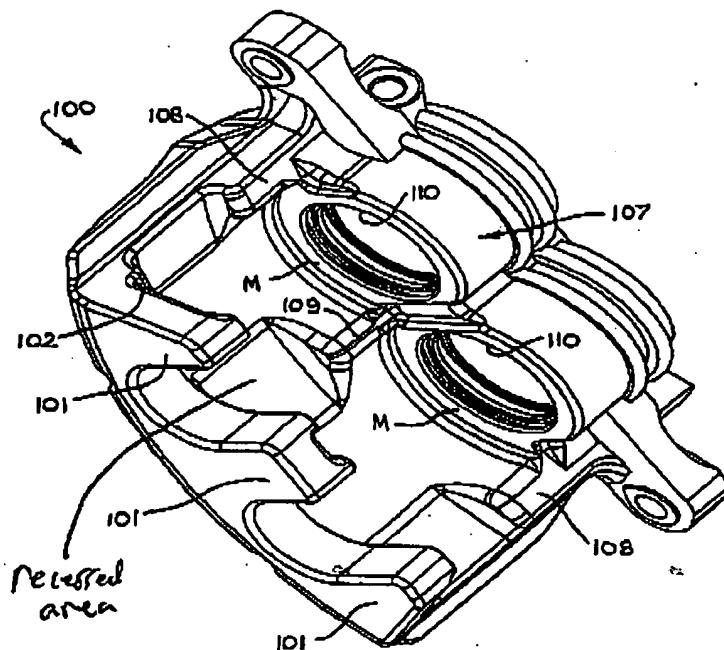


FIG 6

The recessed area indicated above is located at a position between the pistons in line with the projecting part. The presence of the recessed area means that the projecting part in Reeves is not likely present at the location of the recessed area. Therefore, the projecting part between the pistons in Reeves does not likely extend from the inner section 101 to the outer section 116 due to the recessed area.

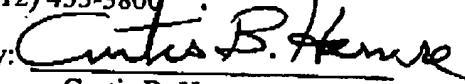
Therefore, the combination of Reeves and Rath does not arrive at the invention recited in claim 1.

Appl. No. 10/772965
Reply to Action dated 9/14/2006
Page 6

In view of the above, early issuance of a notice of allowance is solicited. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. No. 29,165 at (612) 455-3802.

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